# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3845
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
EXPERT COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE SEAFOOD EXPORT
M.H. AMBAREESH

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether in order to promote the export of seafood/marine products the Union Government have formed an expert Committee;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of references of the expert Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to boost the export of seafood/marine products on the basis of said recommendations?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ( SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY )

(a) With a view to give a boost to exports from marine sector and to tap its full potential, Government had set up a Special Task Force in October 1998 for looking into the credit requirements of the seafood industry and necessary measures to be taken.

(b) The composition and terms of references of the Special Task Force were as follows:-

(i) Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Commerce - Chairman

(ii) Joint Secretary, in-charge of Export Promotion of Marine Products, Ministry of Commerce - Convenor

(iii) Joint Secretary concerned with Fisheries in Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying - Member

(iv) Joint Secretary concerned with the subject in the Ministry of Food Processing Industries - Member

(v) Joint Secretary (Banking) in the Ministry of Finance

(vi) Chief General Manager, RBI, Mumbai

(vii) Chairman, MPEDA - Member

(viii) Representative(s) of maritime states as may be invited - Member

(ix) Representative(s) of the seafood industry - Member

The Special Task Force was to examine the entire gamut of the marine products and seafood industry so as to make an appropriate view on the credit requirements for different activities.

(c) to (e) The Working Group set up by Special Task Force on credit requirements of seafood industrysubmitted its Report to the Government. The recommendations inter-alia cover bank finance to marine products and seafood industry, creation of infrastructure

with a view to provide hygienic fishing harbours / landing centres, setting up of a reconstruction fund for the marine products sector etc. The recommendations relating to bank finance have been forwarded to the Indian Banks Association and to various Banks financing seafood industry for adoption and application in individual cases. Government, in association with the Marine Products Exports Development Authority (MPEDA), has taken up the issue of improvement of hygiene and maintenance of fishing harbours / landing centres with the concerned State Governments. Government have examined the suggestion for the creation of the Reconstruction Fund for the seafood industry. However, it has not been found possible to support / accept the proposal.